

## Message Text

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11

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05 /089 W

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R 161152Z DEC 75

FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1351

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL MBFR MISSIONS 0180

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0622

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: SUMMARY REPORT FOR PERIOD

DEC 8-14, 1975

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. THE LAST FULL WEEK OF THE CURRENT  
ROUND OF THE VIENNA FORCE REDUCTION TALKS WITNESSED  
FURTHER EAST-WEST EXCHANGES, BUT NO SUBSTANTIVE PROGRESS  
ON THE ISSUE OF FORCE DEFINITIONS. IN THE DEC 9 INFORMAL  
SESSION, THE EAST CONTINUED TO INSIST ON WESTERN  
ACCEPTANCE OF THE PRINCIPLE THAT SIMILAR FORCE TYPES SHOULD  
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BE ALLOCATED TO THE SAME SERVICE, GROUND OR AIR, EVEN THOUGH

SOVIET REP KHLESTOV AGAIN ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THERE WERE DIFFICULTIES IN THE APPROACHES OF BOTH SIDES TO THE PROBLEM OF FORCE ALLOCATIONS. GDR REP OESER MADE THE ONLY STATEMENT AT THE DEC 11 PLENARY MEETING. HE CRITICIZED THE CONCENTRATION OF THE WESTERN PROGRAM ON GROUND FORCES AND REPEATED THE EASTERN CALL FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS TO ACCEPT EQUAL PERCENTAGE OBLIGATIONS FROM THE OUTSET TO REDUCE ALL FORCES - GROUND, AIR AND NUCLEAR. AT WEEK'S END, THE AD HOC GROUP WAS ENGAGED IN PREPARATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE DEC 12 NATO MINISTERIAL DECISION TO INTRODUCE A PROPOSAL FOR US NUCLEAR REDUCTIONS PRIOR TO THE DEC 18 RECESS IN NEGOTIATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. THE QUESTION OF FORCE DEFINITIONS HAS BEEN A MAJOR FOCUS OF EAST-WEST DISCUSSION THROUGHOUT THE CURRENT ROUND OF THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS. ALTHOUGH EASTERN REPS HAVE REPEATEDLY STATED IN BILATERAL CONVERSATIONS THE INTEREST OF THE EAST IN REACHING AT LEAST TENTATIVE AGREEMENT ON THIS ISSUE, IT IS NOW CLEAR THAT THERE WILL BE NON THIS ROUND. AFTER INTERMITTENT INDICATIONS EARLIER THAT SOME COMPROMISE MIGHT BE POSSIBLE, EASTERN REPS HAVE LATELY REASSERTED THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE WEST MUST ACCEPT THE EAST'S ALLOCATION OF 3 DISPUTED FORCE TYPES AS A PRECONDITION FOR A DEFINITION, WHILE CONTINUING TO REFUSE TO SUPPLY THE RELEVANT DATA WESTERN REPS HAVE SOUGHT PRIOR TO ALLOCATION OF THESE FORCE TYPES.

3. BY PRIOR AGREEMENT, THE DEC 9 INFORMAL SESSION WAS DEVOTED TO FORCE DEFINITIONS. SOVIET REP KHLESTOV AGAIN ADMITTED THAT THERE WERE DIFFICULTIES IN THE APPROACHES TAKEN BY BOTH SIDES. HE ALSO ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THERE WAS A GENERAL SIMILARITY OF VIEW THAT A DEFINITION SHOULD BE COMPREHENSIVE AND PROVIDE A BASIS FOR ALLOCATING ALL FORCES IN THE REDUCTIONS AREA BETWEEN GROUND AND AIR. HOWEVER, KHLESTOV DISMISSED WESTERN ARGUMENTATION ON THE ADVISABILITY OF INCORPORATING THE SUBJECT OF DATA INTO THE DISCUSSION AND STRONGLY INSISTED ON PRIOR WESTERN AGREEMENT TO THE EASTERN FUNCTIONAL PRINCIPLE FOR ALLOCATING FORCES AS A PRE-REQUISITE FOR AGREEMENT ON ALL OTHER ASPECTS OF A DEFINITION.

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TION.

4. GDR REP OESER MADE THE ONLY STATEMENT GIVEN AT THE DEC 11 PLENARY MEETING. AFTER REFERRING TO THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF CSCE, OESER SAID A FURTHER STRENGTHENING OF PEACE NOW REQUIRED THE REDUCTION OF FORCES AND THE RELATED MILITARY CONFRONTATION IN CENTRAL EUROPE. WESTERN FAILURE TO CONFIRM TO AGREED PRINCIPLES

HAD SO FAR BLOCKED PROGRESS AT VIENNA IN THIS REGARD.  
CONTRARY TO THE UNSCIENTIFIC CONCENTRATION OF THE WESTERN  
PROGRAM ON GROUND FORCES, EASTERN REDUCTION PROPOSALS  
CALLING FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS TO OBLIGATE THEMSELVES  
FROM THE OUTSET TO EQUAL PERCENTAGE REDUCTIONS OF ALL  
FORCES - GROUND, AIR AND NUCLEAR - WERE FIR AND  
WOULD LEAVE THE EXISTING FORCE RELATIONSHIP INTACT.  
GDR REP REGRETTED THAT THE WEST HAD PERSISTED IN ITS  
INEQUITABLE APPROACH DURING THE LATEST NEGOTIATING  
ROUND AND CONCLUDED THAT IT WAS TIME FOR THE  
NATO STATES TO REVISE THEIR STAND SO AS TO MAKE A JUST  
AGREEMENT POSSIBLE.

5. NATO MINISTERS ON DEC 12 GAVE FINAL APPROVAL TO  
INTRODUCE OPTION III IN VIENNA PRIOR TO THE RECESS  
SCHEDULED TO BEGIN ON DEC 18. AT WEEK'S END, THE AD HOC  
GROUP WAS ENGAGED IN PREPARATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS DECISION. THE  
WESTERN NUCLEAR INITIATIVE WILL BE FORMALLY PRESENTED TO THE  
EAST IN A PLENARY MEETING ON DECEMBER 16. RESOR

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